THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • FRIDAY • DECEMBER 02, 2022 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 34 • LATE CITY EDITION

READ SHARE FOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
facebook.com/thenewindianexpress twitter.com/newindianexpress
instagram.com/newindianexpress

NOVEMBER GST MOP-UP GROWS 11% YEAR-ON-YEAR TO ₹1.46 L CR

This is the ninth month in a row that the indirect tax revenues have remained above the ₹1.4 lakh crore mark

COLLECTIONS 4% LOWER THAN OCTOBER FIGURE

However, this was 4% lower than October's festival-driven GST mop-up of ₹1.52 lakh crore. The gross GST revenue collected in November 2022 is ₹1,45,867 cr, of which Central GST is ₹25,681 cr, State GST ₹32,651 cr, Integrated GST ₹77,103 cr (including ₹38,635 cr collected on import of goods) and Cess is ₹10,433 cr (including ₹817 cr on import of goods) | P13

MANUFACTURING PMI AT THREE-MONTH HIGH

- Meanwhile, manufacturing activities in India touched a three-month high in November as new orders and exports expanded, another set of data released on Thursday showed
- The S&P Global India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index stood at 55.7 in November, up from 55.3 in October

₹1.68 lakh cr

THE HIGHEST EVER GST COLLECTION, RECORDED IN APRIL 2022

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

MEGA MODI ROADSHOW

Prime Minister Narendra Modi during an election campaign roadshow in Ahmedabad on Thursday. Spanning over 30 km, it covered 13 constituencies in Ahmedabad city and Gandhinagar-South | PTI

Show your face, catch your flight

DigiYatra facial recognition system launched at Delhi, B'luru, Varanasi as part of Phase 1

AMIT MUKHERJEE @ New Delhi

REMEMBER Ethan Hunt in the *Mission Impossible* series? He simply shows his face to get access to his high security office. You could soon have a similar feeling in select airports in India for your domestic flight.

From now, three airports in the country will offer the Digi Yatra service that allows domestic fliers enter the departure zones by just looking into a lens. "A static stare into a digitally wired lens is required to pass the security check," a ministry official said. The service was launched by Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport Terminal 3 on Thursday.

Digi Yatra is an app-based service that has been designed to achieve contactless, seamless processing of passengers at airports, based on facial recognition technology (FRT).

The system allows travellers to pass through various checkpoints via a paperless and contactless process using facial features, captured in the form of digital contours and structure, to establish the identity, which is linked to the boarding pass. To use this facility, a one-time registration on the Digi Yatra app is required, using Aadhaar-based validation and a self-image capture.

The data, Scindia said, is saved in an encrypted format at the airport using blockchain technology. Information sourced from passengers' phones and stored the airport will be purged 24 hours after the journey, he added.

Allaying data security concerns, the ministry said, "There is no central storage of Personally Identifiable Information. Passenger's ID and travel credentials are stored in a secure wallet in the passenger's smartphone itself."

The service is at present being rolled out for domestic flights. In the first phase, it will be launched at seven airports, including the three where it began in Thursday — Delhi, Bengaluru and Varanasi. The other four are Hyderabad, Kolkata, Pune and Vijayawada where the launch is expected by March next year.

HOW TO GO ABOUT IT

- Download Digi Yatra and Digi Locker Apps from Playstore
- Register on Digi Yatra App using phone number and OTP
- Link passenger Aadhaar using Digi locker
- Take selfie for validation

Before every flight

- Scan boarding pass (pre-requisite for check-in)
- Share boarding pass data with the boarding airport

FRT at Dubai Airport saves 40% of passenger time up; and 9 mins per aircraft time at Atlanta Airport

FRT pilot project launched at IGI Airport in August. Many passengers already registered with Digi Yatra ever since

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
HOME LOAN & CAR LOAN
Scan to apply online and get instant approval
Processing & Documentation charges 100% waived
1800 425 0018

Livestreaming Korean YouTuber molested, 2 held

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai

THE Mumbai Police on Thursday arrested two men for allegedly molesting a South Korean woman YouTuber while she was live-streaming from Khar area of Mumbai. Police swung into action after a Twitter user shared the video of the disturbing incident. The two accused, Mobeen Shaikh (19) and Naqeeb Ansari (21), were produced before a court, which sent them to one-day police custody.

The video shows a man trying to forcefully kiss the woman, who protests and walks away. Later, the man along with his friend on a bike can be seen approaching her again.

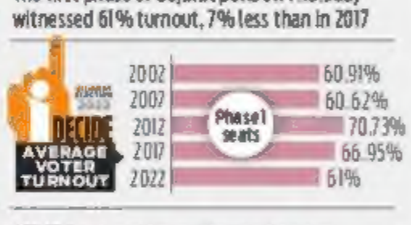
The Twitter user who shared the video tweeted, "A streamer from Korea was harassed by these boys while she was live-streaming in front of a 1000+ people. This is disgusting and some action needs to be taken against them."

Responding to the tweet, the YouTuber said, "Last night on stream, there was a guy who harassed me. I tried my best not to escalate the situation and leave because he was with his friend. And some people said that it was initiated by me being too friendly and engaging the conversation. Makes me think again about streaming."

61% turnout in Gujarat first phase

The first phase of Gujarat polls on Thursday witnessed 61% turnout, 7% less than in 2017

District	Vote
Narmada	73.02%
Navsari	65.91%
Porbandar	53.84%
Rajkot	57.68%
Surat	59.55%
Surendranagar	60.71%
Tapi	72.32%
Valsad	65.29%
Junagadh	56.95%
Kachchh	55.54%
Morbi	67.65%
Navsari	65.91%
Amreli	57.06%
Bharuch	63.08%
Bhavnagar	57.81%
Botad	57.15%
Dang	64.84%
Dwarka	59.11%
Gir Somnath	60.46%
Jamnagar	56.09%



EVM snag in a few places

Polling was largely peaceful across all 89 seats that went to polls in the first phase. Voting was halted in a few places due to malfunctioning of EVMs as well as control units and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPATs) but the faulty units were replaced and the process resumed | P10

EXPRESS READ

Two boys critical after touching live wire

Bengaluru: Two boys are battling for their lives after they came in contact with a high- tension electric wire at Vijayanandanagar in Nandini Layout police station limits on Monday. The incident happened when the iron rod which they were using to catch a pigeon touched the wire. The victims are Chandru (10) and Supreeth (12).

Allot public properties through auction: HC

Bengaluru: Observing that political interference would put public administration in peril, the Karnataka High Court directed the state government to allot public properties only by way of public auction. Justice M Nagaprasanna passed the order on Thursday, while allowing the petition filed by one Chandra Suvarna from Udupi taluk | P3

Student waving Kannada flag in Belagavi assaulted by peers, cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Belagavi

THE ongoing controversy between Karnataka and Maharashtra in the border areas took a violent turn when a student was attacked by a group of students when he was waving a Kannada flag while dancing after the valedictory function of an inter-school cultural fest held at KLS Gogte PU College in Belagavi on Wednesday evening. The victim and some activists said the student was also manhandled by police officials. This is the first instance of physical assault taking place since the escalation of tension between the two neighbouring states from the past few weeks.

The Belagavi city police who rushed to the the spot allegedly manhandled and used derogatory language against the student for waving the flag. Activists of various Kannada organisations expressed their anger against the police and staged a protest on the premises of the college on Thursday morning.

The victim, who has been admitted to a civil hospital, alleged that the police officers from Tilakwadi police station and Deputy Commissioner of Police (L&O) Ravindra Gadadi manhandled and insulted him using filthy language.

Kannada activist Sampat Kumar Desai said, "The student was scared after returning from the police station. I admitted him to a hospital for treatment. Is it wrong to fly the Kannada flag in Belagavi? How can the police manhandle him? I urge the government to take action against the police officers."

DCP (L&O) Ravindra Gadadi said that all the students who created a ruckus in the college are Kannadigas. "As all the students are minors, we have given them a warning. There is no need to pay heed to rumours in this matter," he said. P4

Kannada activists block the Belagavi-Goa highway near RPD circle on Thursday

No proposal to open schools, colleges exclusively for Muslims, says CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru/Shivamogga

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Thursday outright denied that there was any proposal to establish 10 new schools and colleges exclusively for Muslim girls.

A controversy had erupted on Wednesday after several Hindu organisations warned of staging protests against the proposal, but Bommai has denied saying that there was neither such proposal nor had they discussed it at any level in the state government.

Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, Bommai said it was Wakf Board chairman Shafi Saadi's opinion rather than a proposal. "This is not our stand. He (Saadi) should have discussed it with the state government before making such statements."

Later in the day, the CM told reporters in Shivamogga that reports about such a proposal are not true and even the Education Minister had clarified it. The attendance of Muslim students in colleges is quite good. "After the hijab issue, no Muslim students were deprived from getting education," he said.

School Education and Literacy Minister B C Nagesh, speaking to reporters, also reiterated that there was no such proposal from the Wakf Board.

"There is no proposal to establish separate Muslim colleges or schools. The Education Department has not made any kind of decision in this matter," he said.

CONTINUED ON: P6

Argentina go over Pole

Morocco players toss head coach Walid Regragui into the air to celebrate their win against Canada on Thursday. The team qualified for the last 16 for first time since 1986 | AP | P17

Argentina keep alive their hopes of claiming a third World Cup while Belgium's Golden Generation are ousted

NEXT GENERATION COME ALIVE

Forward Julian Alvarez, part of La Albiceleste's next generation, scored on a night Messi missed his penalty. Midfielder Alexis Mac Allister had scored the opener

POLAND GO THROUGH ON NIGHT OF DRAMA

Poland may have lost but they still went through on account of a better goal difference compared to Mexico, who beat Saudi Arabia

BELGIUM ELIMINATED

The Red Lions, who reached the semifinals in 2018, were ousted by Croatia. They needed a win to give their ageing golden generation another chance but only drew

Today's matches 8.30pm: South Korea vs Portugal, Ghana vs Uruguay
12.30 am (Sat): Serbia vs Switzerland, Cameroon vs Brazil

G20 presidency begins, to be consultative & decisive

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

INDIA on Thursday assumed the G20 presidency, with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar saying "it will be consultative, it will be collaborative and it will be decisive."

At a G20 University Connect event that drew students of 75 universities in an interactive session, he said, "Our G20 Presidency is taking place at a very critical moment in international affairs. It is particularly vital that the world leaders focus on the right issues, especially those that effect the more vulnerable sections of the world."

As many as 100 monuments, including UNESCO world heritage sites, were lit up with the G20 logo to mark the start of India's year-long presidency.

The White House said the US is looking forward to supporting India's G20 presidency on a range of issues, including addressing the current food and energy security challenges.

Jaishankar said G20 is not just the collective weight of the participants. "The world will get to know India better and our citizens will develop a sharper appreciation of it," he added. The minister highlighted eight points saying India's example is of increasing relevance to others. They include the country's experience in last-mile delivery using digital platforms, its way of responding to the Covid and indeed the transformation in clean energy, he added.

Right through the year, India intends to host over 200 meetings in 50-plus cities across 32 different workstreams that would give G20 delegates and guests a glimpse of India's rich cultural heritage.

Leopard kills woman in backyard of her house

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mysuru

CLOSE on the heels of a 20-year-old student being killed by a leopard in the rural hinterland of T Narasipur in Mysuru district, another 23-year-old student was attacked and killed by a leopard in the backyard of her house on Thursday evening.

The deceased is **Meghana**, a resident of S Kebbehundi village in T Narasipur taluk. The girl, who was seriously injured in the attack, died at a government hospital in T Narasipur.

As the news spread like wildfire, angry villagers from across the taluk gathered in front of the Taluk General Hospital where they raised slogans against the forest department officials for failing to catch the leopard.

Though foresters have increased surveillance, they are not able to track the movements of the leopard.

Several villagers of Kebbehundi and neighbouring villages who spotted the leopard a week ago had alerted the forest department.

"If they had paid heed to our warning, the young woman could have been saved. We urge the authorities to provide compensation to the kin of the deceased," said Ramesh, a villager.

MORE ON: P3

EXPRESS INTAKE

Gowda opposes UCC, slams PM for favouring TN in water row | P4

POCSO accused forced to serve AAP's Jain in jail: Probe panel | P10

MYSURU SEWAGE FARM HOME TO AT LEAST 10 CROCS

A crocodile seen near the sewage farm in Mysuru | UDAYASHANKAR S

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mysuru

SPOTTING a crocodile in the 'City of Palaces', especially in the vicinity of the sewage farm in Mysuru south has become a common sight for the residents here. In a span of 10 days, at least two crocodiles were spotted and one injured crocodile was rescued from the sewage farm which houses the solid waste management and sewage water treatment plant.

Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Commissioner Lakshmikanth Reddy revealed that he has information that there are at least 10 crocodiles in and around the sewage farm and expressed shock over how they have adapted to life in the sewage water.

While the corporation has taken assistance of the forest department to ensure they are captured, the staff are clueless as they are unable to find them in the STP and the pile up of over 6.5 lakh tonne waste.

A retired forest official said, in 2015, a carcass of a crocodile was found and it was believed that it could have come from the nearby Gopura Park or from the nearby lakes.

It is also suspected that as there was fish-rearing happening at the place some years ago, the crocs might have been inhabiting the place since then.

Meanwhile, the 6.5 lakh tonne waste at the sewage farm which has piled up for decades is all set to be cleared as the long-pending project has got the nod from the state cabinet. The work order is likely to be issued in a month's time.

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha said that once the work order is released, it will be completed within 18 months at an estimated cost of Rs 57 crore as per a revised project report.